

Amendments to Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (cancelled)
7. (cancelled)
8. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1 comprising~~

A method for minimizing corrosion of metal devices used for assembling wood constructions, comprising capping the ends of a plurality of wood joists with said a membrane barrier and connecting said capped ends to a rim wood joist at a surface of which is covered by a strip of membrane barrier, each of said wood joists and rim wood joists being pretreated with a preservative selected from the group consisting of alkaline copper quat, ammoniacal copper quat, and copper azole; and said membrane barrier comprising a carrier support layer and, attached to said carrier support layer, a preformed pressure-sensitive waterproofing adhesive layer operative to seal around metal fasteners driven through said membrane barrier; and

connecting said joists together by fastening them to metal joist hangers using metal fasteners, said fasteners being separated from said wood joists by said membrane barriers, said membrane barriers operative to seal around metal fasteners driven into the wood through said membrane barriers.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising applying a membrane barrier to the uppermost surfaces of said wood joist and wood rim joist.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 ~~8~~ wherein said membrane barrier is non-water-absorptive.

11. (cancelled)
12. (cancelled)

13. (previously presented) The wood assembly of claim 12, wherein said wood joists are attached to a wood rim joist using metal joist hangers fastened to said joists using metal fasteners driven into said wood joists, said joist hangers being separated from said joists by membrane barriers operative to seal around said fasteners driven into said joists to fasten said joist hangers to said joists.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim + 8 wherein said metal device and metal fasteners are made of galvanized steel.